

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 ICA-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 EUR-12
ISO-00 HEW-04 HA-05 /062 W
-----054736 181116Z /20
R 191159Z APR 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0229

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NESCO

PASS DHEW/USOE: LEESTMA, COTNER; USNATCOM: NOBBE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCON, UNESCO
SUBJ: UNESCO INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE TEACHING
OF HUMAN RIGHTS (CATEGORY IV), VIENNA, 12-16 SEPT
1978

REF: A) UNESCO DRAFT DOCUMENT SS/HR/365/07.03.78;
B) PARIS 10466

1. PRELIMINARY INFORMATION (REF A) CONCERNING SUBJECT
CONFERENCE POUCHED DEPT AND USOE 17 MARCH. (REFTEL B
ERRONEOUSLY LISTED SUBJECT CONFERENCE AS AN INTERGOVERN-
MENTAL MEETING.)

2. USPERMDEL (TINSMAN) MET WITH UNESCO SECRETARIAT
(VASAK) (FRA) CONCERNING SUBJECT CONGRESS AS FOLLOW-UP
TO REFTEL B. VASAK HAS JUST RETURNED FROM VIENNA WHERE
HE MET WITH GOA OFFICIALS IN CONTINUED PLANNING FOR
CONGRESS.

3. VASAK CONFIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION. PROTECTION OF
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SOURCE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

A. THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONFUSION CONCERNING THE LEVEL OF
EDUCATION UPON WHICH THE CONFERENCE SHOULD FOCUS. UNESCO
HAS PROVIDED EMPHASIS ON TEACHING AT THE UNIVERSITY
LEVEL ANTICIPATING THAT SUCH LEVEL WOULD HAVE POTENTIAL
FOR PRODUCING GREATEST IMPACT. HOWEVER, THE STANDING

COMMITTEE OF NGO'S AND SYMPOSIUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION MEETING WEEK OF APRIL 10 AT UNESCO HEADQUARTERS HAS FORMED A RESOLUTION REQUESTING UNESCO TO BROADEN THE SCOPE OF SUBJECT CONGRESS TO INCLUDE AT LEAST SECONDARY SCHOOL AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL TEACHING. UNESCO WILL STILL EMPHASIZE TEACHING AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL BUT MOST LIKELY WILL BROADEN THE SCOPE TO INCLUDE THE ABOVE AREAS TO ACCOMMODATE THE WISHES OF THE NGO'S.

B. THE GENERAL DEBATE IN PLENARY SESSION WILL FOCUS ON THE STATE OF THE TEACHING OF HUMAN RIGHTS. TWO COMMITTEES WILL THEN BE FORMED. THESE COMMITTEES WILL FOCUS ON UNIVERSITY LEVEL TEACHING BUT WILL INCLUDE SECONDARY EDUCATION AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL EDUCATION. THE FIRST COMMITTEE WILL DEAL WITH THE CONTENT OF TEACHING AND CURRICULA IN THE EDUCATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND WITH RESEARCH IN HUMAN RIGHTS. THE SECOND COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER THE METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING AND CERTAIN STRUCTURAL QUESTIONS, I.E., (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF HUMAN RIGHTS; (2) PREPARATION OF A PRELIMINARY DRAFT RECOMMENDATION BY UNESCO/WHO FOR DEVELOPING THE TEACHING OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN FACULTIES OF MEDICINE; (3)"HUMAN RIGHTS" PROGRAMMES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY.

C. UNESCO EXPECTS DIFFERING IDEOLOGICAL POINTS OF VIEW TO BE EXPRESSED AND DEBATED IN PLENARY AND IN THE FIRST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMITTEE. IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE LITTLE CONTROVERSY IS EXPECTED CONCERNING TEACHING METHODOLOGY, BUT CONSIDERABLE DEBATE IS EXPECTED ON THE STRUCTURAL QUESTIONS. ON (1) IN PARA B ABOVE IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE ISSUES OF PURPOSE, ROLE AND CONTROL WILL BE RAISED. ON (2) IT IS EXPECTED THAT FACULTIES OF MEDICINE AND DOCTORS MAY OPPOSE A DRAFT RECOMMENDATION.

D. DURING WEEK OF 17 APRIL DIRECTOR GENERAL WILL SEND LETTER TO MEMBER STATES INVITING THEM TO NOMINATE EXPERTS TO ATTEND SUBJECT CONGRESS IN THEIR PRIVATE CAPACITY. DG WILL THEN SCREEN NOMINATIONS AND INVITE THOSE HE FEELS WILL MAKE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION. HE MAY DELETE OR ADD NAMES AS HE SEES FIT. HE WILL INVITE 400 TO 500 EXPERTS EXPECTING APPROXIMATELY 300 TO 400 TO PARTICIPATE. UNESCO DOES NOT REPEAT NOT PAY FOR PARTICIPANTS' TRAVEL AND EXPENSES.

E. UNESCO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT US WOULD HAVE STRONG

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REPRESENTATION OF 8 TO 12 PARTICIPANTS. DISCUSSION REVEALED THAT FOLLOWING TYPES OF EXPERTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD BE INCLUDED ON NOMINATION LIST: (1) LAW SCHOOL FACULTY MEMBERS AND/OR LAWYERS, (2) MEDICAL SCHOOL FACULTY MEMBERS AND/OR MEDICAL DOCTORS, (3) UNIVERSITY FACULTY POLITICAL-SOCIAL SCIENTISTS, (4) UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBERS QUALIFIED IN EDUCATION AND TEACHING METHODOLOGY AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, (5) SECONDARY SCHOOL AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL TEACHERS, SUPERVISORS AND/OR ADMINISTRATORS, (6) USG OFFICIALS INCLUDING APPROPRIATE PERMDEL/UNESCO MEMBERS.

4. ALTHOUGH SUBJECT CONGRESS IS NOT AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING, PERMDEL RECOMMENDS THAT UPON RECEIPT OF DG'S LETTER DEPARTMENT CONSULT WITH USOE AND APPROPRIATE PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE NOMINATION LIST OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED EXPERTS FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS. UPON RECEIPT PERMDEL WOULD ENDEAVOR TO PERSUADE SECRETARIAT TO ACCEPT US NOMINATIONS IN ENTIRETY.

5. PERMDEL POUCHING TODAY LIST OF DOCUMENTS TO BE PREPARED FOR SUBJECT CONFERENCE. DOCUMENTS EXPECTED TO BE READY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO PARTICIPANTS ABOUT 1 AUGUST.
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6. PERMDEL WILL SUPPLY FURTHER INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.

7. PERMDEL SUGGESTS THAT IF POSSIBLE ONE COPY OF BURGENTHAL AND TORNEY BOOK "INT'L HUMAN RIGHTS AND INT'L EDUCATION" BE MADE AVAILABLE AT CONGRESS TO EACH MEMBER STATE "DELEGATION".
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